



Medical Marijuana Registry

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Update for Medical Marijuana Centers ~ December 2011

Due to regulatory changes approved by the Board of Health on November 16, 2011, the Registry is anticipating several changes to the program effective January 1, 2012. The following highlights provide an overview of these changes. To keep current with Medical Marijuana Registry policies, procedures and other activities, please visit the website often. **For questions or comments, please contact us at 303-692-2184 or medical.marijuana@state.co.us.**

Changes to Fee Waiver Process: Effective January 1, 2012, the Registry will only accept certified Colorado tax returns as proof of income. Patients whose household income is at 185% of the Federal Poverty Level or less. To apply for a fee waiver, patients must submit a Request for Fee Waiver/Tax-Exempt Status (form #MMR1010) with their application packet. Patients who already have their registration card, may also use this form to apply for tax-exempt status. The chart below indicates the annual household incomes, adjusted for family size, that qualify for a fee waiver.

**Household incomes at 185% of
2011 Federal Poverty Guidelines***

# in Family	Annual Income
1	\$ 20,146.50
2	\$ 27,213.50
3	\$ 34,280.50
4	\$ 41,347.50
5	\$ 48,414.50
6	\$ 55,481.50
7	\$ 62,548.50
8	\$ 69,615.50
Each additional	\$ 7,067.00

Source: *Poverty guidelines are updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2).

To order a certified copy of the Colorado tax return, patients must submit form DR 5714 'Request for Copy of Tax Returns' to the Colorado Department of Revenue. A copy of the form is included with this newsletter. Please note that the patient must check the box that reads "A Certified Copy of:" and have the form notarized, in order to receive a certified copy. The form is available at www.colorado.gov/cms/forms/dor-tax/dr5714.pdf.

Once a patient receives the certified tax returns, he/she must submit the complete copy along with a Request for Fee Waiver/Tax-Exempt Status, form #MMR1010, with his/her application to be considered for a waiver.

Application fee reduced: Effective January 1, 2012, the application fee will be \$35. Please advise patients to carefully assess the application fee that must be submitted with their paperwork. ***The Registry has a 'no refund' policy.***

Applications submitted by or before December 31, 2011: The fee is \$90 for applications received by or before December 31, 2011. Applications received with less than \$90 will be rejected.

Applications submitted January 1, 2012 or later: The fee is \$35 for applications received at the Registry on January 1, 2012 or later. The Registry will not issue a refund to patients who send the application in with more than \$35.

Protecting Patient Information on Electronic Forms: With the release of electronic forms in October, the Registry has seen an increase in applications with inaccurate information. Please be sure to open a fresh form for every patient. In some cases, the Registry has received applications for patients with another individual's social security number, address, and date of birth. This creates significant risk for breaches of confidentiality. Encourage patients to read all forms carefully before signing. *When working with patients with potential literacy concerns, it may be helpful to read the information to them for verification.*

Provider Designations: With the release of new forms in October, patients are no longer required to designate plant providers. If a patient lists either a Medical Marijuana Center or a caregiver on his/her application, the Registry assumes that both the patient and the provider may be growing marijuana. It is the Medical Marijuana Center's responsibility to document agreed-upon plant counts per patient.

New Forms: The Registry has released new versions of all forms effective December 1, 2011. Modifications have been made to the forms in response to regulatory changes and the reduction of application fees effective January 1, 2012. The forms also feature changes recommended by community partners. ***Please begin using these forms immediately.*** The Registry will accept the October 2011 version of Physician Certifications until February 28, 2012.

For more information, please visit: www.cdphe.state.co.us/hs/medicalmarijuana.
The Registry is not affiliated with any privately operated club, organization, or dispensary.